

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 COME-00 EB-11 PA-03 PRS-01 USIE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 /045 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:ARMCKEE:JS

7/25/73 EXT 23468

APPROVED BY AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN

COMM:BIC:RRYDLUN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: TRADE
MISSION TO U.S.

REF: LAGOS 05829

1. AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER (AAC) CONFIRMS IT HAS RECEIVED "PUZZLING" LETTER FROM NIGERIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER PROPOSING SEPTEMBER MISSION, SPECIFYING FEW DETAILS AND LEAVING "EVERYTHING" UP TO AAC. DEPTOFF SPOKE WITH MS. BERANEK OF AAC, WHO SAID CABLES HAD BEEN SENT TO EMBASSY LAGOS AND NED COFFIN (AS UNDERSTOOD) OF WEST AFRICAN SERVICES REQUESTING INFORMATION ON MISSION MEMBERS, INTERESTS, FUNDING, ETC. DEPT OFFERED PASS TO AAC INFORMATION PROVIDED AT JULY 26 MEETING.

2. DEPT ALSO CALLED FORTHCOMING MISSION TO ATTENTION OF NIGERIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR ANI WHO PREVIOUSLY UNAWARE.

3. ACTION BY AAC AWAITING RECEIPT ANTICIPATED INFORMATION.
AAC WILLING ARRANGE MEETINGS IN NEW YORK WHERE MOST OF ITS
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MEMBERS LOCATED, BUT HAS FEW CONTACTS OUTSIDE CITY AND

DOUBTS THAT IT IN EFFECTIVE POSITION TO FACILITATE VISITS TO
POINTS SUCH AS BOSTON AND HOUSTON.

4. COMMERCE WOULD BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE ITINERARY SUGGES-
TIONS, ASSIST WITH TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND MAKE BUSINESS
APPOINTMENTS, DRAWING ON DISTRICT OFFICE IN CITIES MISSION
PROPOSES TO VISIT. APPRECIATE THAT THIS USG ROLE WOULD
PROBABLY RESULT IN ASSUMPTION APPARENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR
MISSION'S SUCCESS OR FAILURE, BUT SEE LITTLE PROMISING AL-
TERNATIVE.

5. NEITHER LETTER TO AAC NOR EMBASSY REFTEL MENTION FUND-
ING ARRANGEMENTS; ASSUME DELEGATION DEFRAYING OWN EXPENSES
THROUGHOUT. ROGERS

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